

**2019 JOURNAL
Daily Proceedings**

DAILY PROCEEDINGS

**GREAT PLAINS ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Laity Session
Kansas Expocentre, Topeka, Kansas
Thursday, May 30, 2019**

Lisa Maupin, Conference Lay Leader, opened the laity session at 8:30 am. Thursday, May 30, 2019. She welcomed all laity.

Keith Olsen, associate lay leader, opened with prayer

Introduction of Lay Leadership team – Lisa Maupin, conference lay leader; Keith Olsen, associate lay leader; Randall Hodgkinson, associate lay leader (starting July); Robin Balk, associate lay leader (starting July) – Hodgkinson and Balk are on ballot to be voted on at this conference.

Please share ministry stories with lay leadership team.

District roll call – each district name called.

Olsen reviews resolutions and petitions in packets.

Maupin reviewed the voting process for general conference delegates and jurisdictional conference delegates.

Forty-four laity submitted their names to be voted upon. Each candidate introduced themselves – name, congregation and one word they hope will describe General Conference 2020.

One candidate has withdrawn his name – Wes Gately (he has accepted a student pastorate).

One candidate – Kelly Hamilton – couldn't attend annual conference.

Maupin led the body in prayer for the candidates.

The candidates moved to an area of the arena to be met by the laity after the closing.

Olsen closed the session in prayer.

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GREAT PLAINS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Clergy Session

Kansas Expocentre, Topeka, Kansas

Thursday, May 30, 2019

Rev. Amy Lippolt, chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry, welcomed those in attendance and gave her final remarks as chair. She introduced Rev. Galen Wray, who will succeed her as chair of the board.

Members of the board took turns leading clergy through the Business of the Annual Conference. The following were approved as printed by vote of the session:

Question 18: The administrative review committee members

Questions 20 and 21: licensed local pastors

Question 25: other-denomination clergy serving appointments within the Great Plains

Question 28: Bishop Saenz led the election of candidates presented for Provisional Deacon and Provisional Elder. All were approved.

Question 32: Bishop Saenz led the election of members in full connection. All were approved.

Questions 33 and 34: Bishop Saenz led the approval of those to be ordained deacon or elder.

Question 36: Michael McInnes was readmitted to the Conference

Question 50: Approval given to members continuing their leave of absence

Question 53 and 54: Approval given to associates, deacons and elders requesting retirement

Question 72: Approved associates and elders serving less-than-full-time

Question 76c: Approved those appointed to ministries under Para 344.1d

Annual Conference shall be held May 27-30, 2020, in Topeka.

The bishop closed the meeting with thanks and words of encouragement to be transitional leaders who care and provide perspective on the bigger picture.

GREAT PLAINS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Laity Session

Kansas Expocentre, Topeka, Kansas

Thursday, May 30, 2019

Bishop Ruben Saenz Jr. called us to order with words of thanks for our musicians. He recognized first-year participants to Annual Conference and polled the body about length served, distance traveled and other questions.

Rev. Nan Kaye-Skinner, conference secretary, presented the enabling motions:

1) The Secretarial Team of Laura Gregory, Rev. Ben Hanne, Rev. Michelle Byerly, Lori Richey, Chris Collins, Julie Bickel and Amy Hasemeyer were authorized to serve. • Approved; 2) The bar of the conference was established within the arena • Approved; 3) Those on authorized

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conference business outside the voting bar shall be permitted to vote. • Approved;
Attendance shall be taken using the attendance cards in member packets. Card may be given to a teller or brought to the secretarial table.

Rev. Lew Kaye-Skinner presented the standing rules (pages 1-4 of the workbook) • Approved

Lisa Maupin, Conference Lay Leader, presented the Laity Address. She urged us to hear and respond to the heartbeat of ministry in the Great Plains and asked us to mentor and nudge others into the same lineage of hope that we were brought into. She asked us to consider how we will strengthen that heartbeat.

A video greeting from Bishop Saenz' family was shown. Retired Bishop Richard "Dick" Wilke, a former Kansas pastor, was welcomed and thanked for his work with Disciple Bible Study. Bishop Saenz introduced his wife, Maye, and expressed gratitude for her support.

Bishop Saenz presented the Episcopal Address. He acknowledged the celebrations and the difficulties of the last year. He encouraged us to serve God and humanity with joy and to "trust in the slow work of God" – a quote from Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, SJ.

Rev. Nancy Lambert gave instructions for the General Conference delegate elections. Several test votes were taken and the first ballot for seven clergy and seven laity were cast.

Session adjourned.

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Kansas Expocentre
Thursday, May 30, 2019

Bishop Saenz called the second session to order and announced that the results of the morning's voting would be ready shortly.

Oliver Green, chair of the Great Plains General Conference delegation, welcomed the current delegation to the stage and introduced each delegate. He and Rev. Amy Lippoldt gave a summary of the process, legislation and decisions from the February 2019 special session of General Conference.

Rev. Lippoldt, chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry, gave the BOM report. She will complete 13 years of service with the BOM this year and thanked the Conference for the opportunity to serve in this capacity. Rev. Galen Wray, pastor in Springfield, Nebraska, will be the new chairperson. Warren Schoming recognized those who serve as local pastors in our Annual Conference. He introduced the recent Course of Study graduates. Rev. Karen Jeffcoat, conference registrar, introduced the Provisional Elders

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and Deacon. The body affirmed these people by a standing ovation. Rev. Jeffcoat introduced those approved to be ordained as full elders and full deacons. Bishop Saenz asked the ordinands to respond to Wesley's historic questions. The body affirmed these candidates by a standing ovation.

Rev. Lippoldt thanked the delegates for their part in the education of young and new clergy. She also recognized the DCOM lay servants. Report accepted by voice vote.

Introduction of Retirees -- Bishop Saenz invited the 54 retirees to come up front as they were called. Each person introduced themselves. The body affirmed their retirement and thanked them by standing applause.

Rev. Nancy Lambert, director, gave the Clergy Excellence report.

Rev. Nathan Stanton, director, gave the Congregational Excellence report.

Bishop Saenz announced the results of the first ballot.

Clergy vote #1 - Elected: Adam Hamilton (281).

Laity vote #1 - No election.

Lay Leadership Development – Shane Warta, coordinator, and Mary Feit, Lay Servant Ministries director, presented the report: 891 individuals have taken lay servant courses. Five new courses were added this year. \$500 scholarships are being offered for advanced training, laity only.

Rev. Lambert made announcements. Bishop Saenz closed the session for a break.

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**Kansas Expocentre
Thursday, May 30, 2019**

Bishop Saenz opened the session by sharing prayer concerns and then asked Phyllis Provost to offer an opening prayer. Bishop Saenz gave instructions for the second ballot. A correction was made on the numbers listed for Eduardo Bousson and Zach Anderson.

Clergy Ballot #2 was taken for six delegates.

Rev. Nicole Conard, Young Adult Coordinator, presented the Great Plains summer interns and the young adults who will attend the Ecumenical Institute of World Council of Churches in Switzerland, and three individuals who will serve as two-year Global Mission Fellows: Eithne Claire Leahy to Seattle, Navya Hopkins to Germany and Roy Koech to Philadelphia. The bishop offered a prayer of commissioning for them and their work.

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Laity Ballot #2 was taken for seven delegates.

Shane Warta, coordinator of lay leadership development, and Mary Feit, director of Lay Servant Ministries, provide a report on the status of lay leadership in the Great Plains Conference. The report was affirmed by the members of the Conference with an “amen.”

Stuart Mack, chair of Camping Ministry gave the camping report. Amara Fisher was introduced to talk about her experiences at Camp Chippewa; Ryan Stumbo, camp counselor at Camp Horizon, spoke of his experiences.

Rev. Tex Sample, chair of the Saint Paul School of Theology board, reported on Saint Paul’s strong financial condition. He also noted that Saint Paul is no longer on academic probation.

Rev. Zach Anderson, chair of the Council on Finance and Administration, reported on the financial business of the Conference. He referenced the 2020 proposed budget that will be voted on Saturday. He invited members to submit questions to be answered during his second report. He reminded everyone that money can only be added to a line in the proposed budget if it is subtracted from another line.

Clergy Ballot #2. No election
Clergy Ballot #3 was taken for six delegates.

Lloyd Hamrick, chair of Trustees, gave the trustees report. Trinity Community Church in Kansas City is closing its doors on June 30. They have been investigating options for the sale of the church. The superintendent’s house in Wichita will soon be sold. He referred members to the “Proposed Formula and Procedure for the Calculation of Each Local Church’s Pro Rata share of Aggregate Unfunded Pension Obligations to the Annual Conference.” This is for purposes of a local church’s disaffiliation. Hamrick invited members to submit any questions prior to Saturday’s vote on this document.

Mike Shockley reported as chair for the Board of Pension and Health Benefits. He moved the following:

- 1) to increase Past Service Rate Increase PSR 2 % for 2020 which will bring up to \$807. • Approved.
- 2) set CPP death and disability benefits at 3%, CRSP defined Contributions 3% and CRSP Defined Benefit 3%. • Approved.
- 3) Housing Resolution for 2020. • Approved.

The Health Allowance and 2020 funding plan will be considered on Saturday.

Laity Ballot #2: Elected: Oliver Green (374), Lisa Maupin (361), Scott Brewer (354)

Laity Ballot #3 was taken to elect 4 delegates.

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Peggy Mihoover, benefits officer, presented the results of the Board of Pensions Team Spirit Walking Challenge: Khrista Branson, Dodge City District, walked over a million steps, Dodge City is the district winner with the highest number steps of all districts, Elkhorn Valley and Prairie Rivers highest number of participants.

Bishop Saenz adjourned at 5:05 p.m. Rev. Chris Jorgensen preached for the Memorial Service at Topeka First UMC, honoring clergy and spouses who died since the 2018 Annual Conference.

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Kansas Expocentre
Friday, May 31st, 2019

Bishop Saenz recognized those who organized the Memorial Service. He then opened the session with prayer. Bishop Saenz gave results of the Thursday afternoon's clergy ballot:

Clergy Ballot #3: Elected: Amy Lippoldt (219)
Clergy ballot #4 for 5 clergy delegates was taken.

Rev. Dr. Dustin Petz, president of Kansas Area United Methodist Foundation, moved Resolution #1, "Inclusive Scope." He explained that this action will make changes to the Foundation bylaws and how it elects its Board of Trustees. Discussion followed. • Approved

Bishop Saenz presented the results of the laity ballot.

Laity Ballot #3: no election.
Laity Ballot #4 taken for 4 delegates.

Rev. Tessa Zehring, chair of Great Plains Nominations Committee, presented Document D, bylaws to the Great Plains United Methodist Camps, Inc. She moved two changes in the bylaws, one in article 5 and one in article 7. Discussion followed. • Approved

Rev. Zehring presented the nominations slate of committees, adding the following to the slate:

Board of Directors for Ember Hope: Mary Beth Blake, Rev. Pam Bauer Nolan, Michael Shockley, Judge Kevin Moriarty, Alan Edelman, Rev. Kent Melcher, Rev. Evelyn Fisher; Ex-Officio: Rev. Don Hasty, Bishop Ruben Saenz Jr.

Clergy Ballot #5 taken

Craig Hauschild, chair of Personnel Committee, presented the 2020 Minimum Compensation proposal and moved to adopt. • Approved

Bishop Saenz gave results of the laity ballot. #4: 611 votes cast, 2 invalid,

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305 needed for majority.

Laity Ballot #4 - Elected: Randall Hodgkinson (322).
Laity Ballot #5 was taken.

Bishop Saenz presented a “Possibilities Conversation” about the future of the church with the passing of the Traditional Plan. Bishop Saenz asked everyone to stay open to what the Spirit is doing throughout this process and pray for our denomination and its leaders.

Clergy Ballot #5 - Elected: Junius Dotson (199); Kalaba Chali (198)
Clergy Ballot #6 taken for 3 clergy delegates.

Scott Brewer gave the Conference Treasurer’s report. He shared statistics of celebration and of missed opportunities, announcing the success of each district in paying their mission shares. Over \$700,000 has been given to conference disaster response in 2019. Bishop Saenz asked for affirmation of Brewer’s work and the treasurer’s report. • Approved

Laity Ballot #5: no election
Laity Ballot #6 taken for three delegates.

Church Closings as presented by the District Superintendents
Resolution #2 – Kilgore UMC closing • Approved.
Resolution #3 – Trinity Community Church closing • Approved
Resolution #4 – Valley View United Methodist Church closing • Approved
Resolution #5 – Chetopa-St. Paul UMC closing • Approved
Resolution #6 – Ada United Methodist Church closing • Approved
Resolution #7 – Delphos United Methodist Church closing • Approved
Resolution #8 – Portis United Methodist Church closing • Approved
Resolution #9 – Robinson United Methodist Church closing • Approved
Resolution #10 – Hicks Chapel UMC closing • Approved

Bishop Saenz prayed in gratitude for the churches and their ministry

Clergy Ballot #6: No election.
Clergy Ballot #7 taken for 3 clergy delegates.

Dennis Ackerman, chair of New Church Development, gave thanks for the work of the team and the support given by the local churches, and introduced Rev. Nathan Stanton.

Rev. Stanton introduced the new church planters for this year: Pastor Ronda Kingwood of Heart of Christ UMC, satellite of Saint Mark in Wichita; Church of the Resurrection Overland Park campus led by Pastor Joshua Clough; southeast area of Omaha – Juan Carlos Veloso, Kansas City -Elmer Armijo.

Rev. Junius Dotson gave “One Matters” awards to Arcadia, Nebraska, UMC and Denton, Nebraska, UMC who have grown in intentional discipleship and thanked Dan Entwistle for his work on the General Board of Discipleship.

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Rev. Nancy Lambert updated the week's mission giving: 386 buckets delivered, 1,650 hygiene kits, 1,421 school kits, \$2,034 in cash; disaster offering from Wednesday was \$6,228.98.

BREAK

1:30 p.m. Plenary Speaker: Rev. Mike Mather – "Ministry as if the Gospel is True"

GREAT PLAINS ANNUAL CONFERENCE SECOND PLENARY

Kansas Expocentre

Friday, May 31, 2019

Bishop Saenz opened the session with thanks for Friday morning's plenary speaker, Rev. Mike Mather.

Rev. Melinda Harwood, music and worship coordinator for the conference, introduced Maddie Nevens, general manager for Kent AV, who explained the LED backdrops used during Annual Conference. Conference participants expressed their appreciation for the audio-visual screens and Kent AV.

Sara DeCaro, Kansas area archivist, reported for the Conference History and Archives, recognizing those churches celebrating 150 years of ministry:

Alder Grove UMC (Craig, Nebraska), Bartlett UMC (Kansas), Baxter Springs First UMC, Big Creek UMC (Chanute, Kansas), Blair First UMC (Blair, Nebraska), Coal Creek UMC (Valley Falls, Kansas), Crete Grace UMC (Nebraska), Denton UMC (Kansas), El Dorado First UMC (Kansas), Frankfort UMC (Kansas), Girard UMC (Kansas), Independence First UMC (Kansas), Lenexa UMC (Kansas), Liberty UMC, Marion Valley UMC (Kansas), Ottawa UMC (Kansas), Schuyler Christ UMC (Nebraska), Silver Lake UMC (Kansas), Tonganoxie UMC (Kansas), Towanda UMC (Kansas), Walnut UMC (Kansas), Worden UMC (Baldwin City, Kansas).

Rev. Larry Moffet, board member of the Lydia Patterson Institute, introduced Ryan Martinez, who will be a senior at Nebraska Wesleyan University. Ryan told his story of the impact of LPI and Nebraska Wesleyan on his life.

Laity Ballot #6: Elected: Steve Baccus (345), and Dixie Brewster (335)

Emily Cannon asked voting members to be mindful of electing young United Methodists to General Conference.

Laity Ballot #7 was taken for 1 delegate.

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Clergy Ballot #7: Elected: Rev. Dee Williamston (225) and Rev. David Livingston (217)
Clergy Ballot #8 was taken for 1 delegate

In preparation for addressing resolutions and petitions, Bishop Saenz shared guidelines for Holy Conferencing and reminded members to use the color-coded cards to indicate their intentions when speaking at the microphone. The Conference was led in prayer by Phyllis Provost.

Lenny Maxwell moved the adoption of Resolution #11, "Renewal Leave for Clergy". Seconded.

Jessi Lipp moved an amendment to strike Lines 30-33 "at least equal to ... interim pastor" and insert: "negotiated by the District Superintendent and an interim pastor." • Approved

Jessi Lipp moved to insert Line 28 after "self renewal" and add, "This policy should be in place and readily available by January 1, 2020."

• Approved

Discussion followed.

Vote on Resolution #11 as amended. • Approved

Laity Ballot #7: no election

Laity Ballot #8 was taken to vote for 1 delegate.

Rev. April Wegehaupt gave the campus ministry report and had the campus ministers introduce themselves.

Clergy Ballot #8: no election.

Clergy Ballot #9 was taken to vote for 1 delegate.

Mandy Barthouse moved the adoption of Resolution #12, "Amendment to Safe Gatherings"

Rev. Neil Gately moved to refer Resolution #12 to Connecting Council.

• Approved

Laity Ballot #8: no election.

Laity Ballot #9 was taken to vote for 1 delegate.

Rev. Nancy Lambert announced the offering totals: UMCOR - \$3873.31;

Disaster Response - \$6907.15;

Youth Service Fund - \$5,599.04. Total \$16,379.50

Recess

Bishop Saenz called the session to order and announced the results of the latest ballots:

Clergy Ballot #9: no election.

Clergy Ballot #10 was taken to vote for 1 delegate.

Laity Ballot #9: Elected: Lisa Buffum (322)

General Conference laity delegation complete.

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Laity Ballot #1 was taken for 7 Jurisdictional Delegates

Bishop Saenz introduced and welcomed Bishop Ann Scherer.

Clergy Ballot #10: 326 votes. 164 needed. Elected: Rev. Cheryl Jefferson Bell (195)

General Conference clergy delegation complete.

Clergy Ballot #1 was taken for 7 Jurisdictional Delegates.

Mike Shockley, chair, presented the Board of Pensions and Health Benefits Report and moved acceptance of the Health Allowance policy.

Rev. Nan Kaye-Skinner moved to amend by deleting Line 7, "... and are not eligible ... \$15,850." Replace with, "Full time and ¾ time pastors appointed to local churches that provide a health insurance plan shall receive the equivalent of the Conference Health allowance." • Approved

Mary Brooks moved Resolution #13 be substituted for lines 2&3 ending with the words, "Bronze Plan" Discussion followed. The question was called and carried. • Substitution Fails

Discussion on the main motion as amended. Editorial change Line 44 on pg 22 and Line 7 on pg 23 should read \$15,850. The Question was called and carried. • Approved

Laity Ballot #1: 612 votes. 307 needed. No Election.

Laity Ballot #2 was taken for 7 Jurisdiction delegates

Clergy Ballot #1: 392 votes. 197 needed. No Election

Clergy Ballot #2 was taken for 7 Jurisdiction delegates

Laity Ballot #2: 603 votes. 302 needed. Elected: Abigail Koech (368), Dan Entwistle (339), Jesi Lipp (326)

Laity Ballot #3 was taken for 4 delegates

Clergy Ballot #2: 308 votes. 155 needed. Elected: Rev. Anne Gatobu (189), Rev. Mark Holland (186), Rev. Eduardo Bousson (183)

Clergy Ballot #3 was taken for 4 delegates.

Bishop Saenz referred Resolution #17 to Conference Finance and Administration to be brought back tomorrow for consideration.

Bishop Saenz prayed. Meeting adjourned at 4:57 p.m. for the Ordination and Consecration Service.

Rev. Adam Hamilton preaching.

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GREAT PLAINS ANNUAL CONFERENCE SECOND PLENARY
Kansas Expocentre
Saturday, June 1st, 2019

2019 Great Plains Annual Conference
Saturday Morning Session, 8:30am

Bishop Ruben Saenz Jr. called us to order with words of compassion and concern for the latest mass shooting in Virginia Beach. He offered prayers for first responders, families and clergy affected.

Laity ballot #3: Keith Olsen withdrew his name from consideration.
Elected: Shayla Jordan (245)
Laity ballot #4 was taken. 3 delegates needed.

Ross Baker, chair of the Sessions Team, thanked the team and their volunteers for all of the planning and oversight they give to the conference session.

Clergy ballot #3: Elected: Ashley Prescott Barlow-Thompson (157)
Clergy ballot #4 was taken. 3 delegates needed.

Todd Seifert, communications director, thanked the communications team for their skill and work during Annual Conference, as well as all the people who submitted their materials early this year.

The bishop led the conference in singing happy birthday to all those who celebrated their birthdays during the week.

Laity ballot #4: 552 votes, 277 needed. Elected: Ally Drummond (303)
Laity ballot #5 was taken. 2 delegates needed.
Clergy ballot #4: Elected: Stephanie Ahlschwede (179), Zach Anderson (164)
Clergy ballot #5 was taken. One delegate needed.

Nancy Lambert recognized the worship design team, tellers and those who drove the parking lot golf carts.
Bishop Saenz and the Conference members sang happy birthday to those who had celebrated their birthday during Annual Conference.

Laity ballot #5: 570 votes, 286 needed. Elected: Esther Hay (291)
Laity ballot #6 was taken. One delegate needed.
Clergy ballot #6: 341 votes, 171 needed. No election.
Clergy ballot #7 was taken. One delegate needed.

Bishop Saenz recognized and thanked youth assisting with voting devices

Laity ballot #6 - Elected: Joyce Jones (322)
Laity delegation to Jurisdictional Conference complete.

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Laity Ballot #1 (Jurisdictional Alternates) taken. 3 alternates needed.
Clergy ballot #7 - Elected: Rev. Andrew Conard (221)
Clergy delegation to Jurisdictional Conference complete.
Clergy ballot #1 (Jurisdictional Alternates) taken. 3 alternates needed.

Lyle Schoen moved for a reconsideration of Resolution 11. Seconded and passed.
Discussion followed. Rev. Zach Anderson moved to refer the Resolution to Clergy Excellence.
Second. Discussion Followed. Question was called and approved. • Referral Approved

Carol Windrum presented Resolution #14 on "Creation Care". Discussion followed. The question was called & approved. • Resolution Approved

Libby Oberdorf moved to allow the Bishop to reorder the remaining action items to Resolution #16, Resolution #17, Petition #1, and Resolution #15. • Approved

Rev. John Collins moved Resolution #16, "A Conscientious Dissent from the Traditional Plan"
Seconded. Discussion followed.

Rev. Andy Hargrove moved to amend – beginning at line 30 "Be it further resolved that the Great Plains Conference encourages the 2020 General Conference of the UMC to pursue a plan of amicable separation of the denomination as a way to resolve our current conflicts over questions related to human sexuality." Seconded. Discussion followed.
Electronic Vote: 301 yes, 687 no. • Amendment failed
Resolution 16 vote taken by electronic ballot: 607 yes, 396 no. • Approved

Laity ballot #1 – no election

Rev. Mark Holland moved to suspend the rules to address Resolution #18, "Great Plains Supporting UMC Next". Electronic Vote: 672 yes, 295 no. • Approved

Clergy ballot #1 - Elected: Ashlee Alley Crawford (149)
Clergy ballot #2 (JA) taken. 2 alternates needed.

Lora Andrews presented Resolution #18 and moved its adoption.
Seconded. Discussion Followed. Electronic Vote: 586 yes, 396 no. • Approved

Laity ballot #2 - Elected: Roy Koech (402); Abraham Ruffcorn (312)
Laity ballot #3 taken. One alternate needed.

Loyd Hamrick, chair of the Board of Trustees, moved adoption of the formula for disaffiliation for local churches. • Approved

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Rev. Christine Potter moved Resolution #17, "Action for Inclusive Ministry in the Great Plains Annual Conference". Seconded. Rev. Andy Hargrove questioned the constitutionality of the resolution. The bishop declared the resolution in order. Discussion followed. Electronic vote: 548 yes, 386 no. • Approved

Rev. Zach Anderson, chair of Chair of Finance and Administration, presented the conference budget. • Approved

Clergy ballot #2: no Election
Clergy ballot #3 taken. 2 alternates needed.

Laity ballot #3 - Elected: Charles File (271)
Clergy ballot #3 - Elected: Rev. Kurt Cooper (197)
Clergy ballot #4 taken for one alternate.

Abraham Ruffcorn moved to amend the beginning on line 23, striking "for" and adding "and conference" would read "local congregations and conference ministries". • Approved
Electronic vote on the amended resolution: 548 yes, 386 no. • Approved

Brent Messick, member of the Conference Finance and Administration Committee, reported a clean 2017 Audit. During the past two years the Conference has had strong growth in investments. Brent moved the adoption of the 2019-2020 budget as presented.
Kathryn Bullock moved to amend the budget by moving \$500 out of Rural Response Hotline and reallocate it to the Interchurch Ministries of Nebraska. Discussion. • Amendment failed
•Budget Approved

Clergy ballot #4: no election
Clergy ballot #5 taken for one jurisdictional alternate
Clergy ballot #5 - Elected: Nathan Stanton (189)
General and Jurisdictional Conference elections are complete.

Barbara Lukert moved Petition # 1, "Science of Sexual Orientation Study Guide" be adopted and sent to General Conference 2019. Seconded. Discussion Followed.
Kathy Bullard, moved to amend by removing lines 32 and 33. • Approved
Vote on amended Petition. • Approved

Rev. Richard Randolph moved Resolution #15, "Response to Climate Change". Seconded.
Discussion followed.
Rev. Andy Hargrove moved to amend line 9, "Be it further resolved that the Great Plains Conference Trustees shall report to each Annual Conference session the carbon footprint of all Conference properties and the work being done to decrease that carbon footprint."
Jesi Lipp moved to refer the amendment and the main motion to the

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Connecting Council to bring back a full report at next Annual Conference.

- Approved

Michael Brown moved Resolution #19 on future handling of Annual Conference resolutions

Seconded. Discussion followed.

Jesi Lipp moved to amend: in all instances in the last three paragraphs delete "instruct the 2020 Great Plains Annual Conference Sessions Planning Team" and replacing it with, "encourage the bishop, when setting the agenda for the 2020 Great Plains Annual Conference and all future conferences." • Approved

Vote on amended Resolution #19 • Approved

Great Plains Delegation to 2020 General Conference invited to stage for recognition and prayer

Conference Secretary, Nan Kaye-Skinner, presented the closing motions

Moved the acceptance of the minutes as the official record

Moved that all reports presented and edited in the journal be accepted

Moved that secretary make editorial changes in the Journal as needed.

Moved that the number of copies of the journal be printed as required in the Book of Discipline and as ordered by individuals.

- Approved

The 2020 Great Plains Annual Conference will be held May 27-30, 2020.

The Bishop introduced the Cabinet, led the Conference in worship and fixing of appointments

Bishop Saenz closed the 2019 session of the Great Plains Annual Conference at 12:15 p.m.